wall in many cases of infectious disease. Andrewes found that inflammatory reactions were present in Staphylococcus and Streptococcus septicemia, malignant endocarditis, scarlet fever, acute rheumatic fever, measles, B. coli infection, and syphilis. He points out that insofar as the destructive nature of the disease is concerned, syphilis stands by itself. The study, in general, confirms and amplifies those previously made by others. As every individual suffers not a few infective processes during his lifetime, each of which probably has some effect upon the vessel wall, the author believes it very suggestive that we here are dealing with the cause of premature arterial degeneration. In the subsequent investigation of finding an index of the grade of degeneration it was shown that the calcium content of the arteries is a useful criterion. The method, however, is too cumbersome to serve any other than a suggestive study. He found that the calcium content remained low and fairly uniform up to the twentieth year. From this until the thirty-fifth year there was a gradual increase, while after middle life, the calcium content rises markedly. Furthermore, it was found that the calcium contant of the arteries in disease was greatly increased and he believed that the relative amount is a good index of the degree of degeneration. For syphilis, however, these figures have not the same value, as the calcium content is not equally increased when syphilis alone is present, but varies with the association of it with a true sclerosis of the artery.

**Cancer of the Thyroid in Graves' Disease.**—Although we associate Graves' disease with certain structural changes of thyroid gland, not a few cases are on record in which the characteristic hyperplasia was wanting and an entirely different process present in the gland. Langhans classified the epithelial changes of the thyroid in seven groups, each of which has been described associated with Graves' disease. LYON (*Ztschr. f. Krebsforsch.*, 1914, xiv, 501) described a case of columnar cell cancer of the thyroid in a female, aged twenty-one years. She had typical symptoms of Graves' disease with enlargement of the right lobe. The tumor was removed as well as a number of cervical lymph glands which were involved in metastatic growth. The primary tumor as well as the secondaries contained more or less colloid. The growth was typically cancerous and infiltrated the gland capsule and surrounding tissues. The cancerous alveoli showed no papillomatous ingrowths as is usually seen in hyperplasia of the thyroid. The author believes that the new growth developed upon a primary hyperplastic goitre or that cancer and Graves' disease simultaneously developed in a colloid struma. Whether the colloid material produced in cancer of the thyroid is abnormal and assists in producing symptoms he was unable to say.

**Tumors in Amphibia.**—Recent studies on tumors have shown that they are widely distributed in all types of animals and particularly in vertebrates. Spontaneous tumors of rats, mice, fowl and fish are now well known to us. A number of investigators have described tumors in amphibia. The majority of these were located in the skin and were of the nature of fibroma, adenoma, and cancer. The first of these were described by Eberth, 1868, consisting of multiple adenomata of the skin of a frog. The character of the tumor in these animals is not easy to determine and some discussion respecting the origin of the tumor cells has arisen. It is suggested that the masses are associated with the presence of distoma and neomatodes which are so commonly present in the skin glands. Hypernephroma and tumors of the ovary have also been described. Pentimalli (*Ztschr. f. Krebsforsch.*, 1914, xiv, 623) observed multiple tumors beneath the skin of a frog which he was unable to transplant to new animals. Some of these tumors had ulcerated through the skin but not all were adherent to it. The small tumor masses were situated in the superficial portion of the corium. He believed that each of the multiple tumors was primary and not of metastatic origin. The tumor was of adenomatous type with some character of malignancy. They apparently began in the glands of the skin.

**A Cytological Study of the Exudate in a Case of Tuberculous Pleurisy.**—Kipp (*Folia Hematologica*, 1914, xviii, 43) studied the cells of a tuberculous exudate at intervals and observed the change in the relative counts from the acute process to the stage of healing. At the beginning an endothelial type of cell was found in greatest abundance. These, however, were not all of the same kind, some being true endothelial cells, others myeloblasts and some lymphoblasts. Subsequently the cell count changed and the proportion of lymphocytes increased considerably. Finally, at the end of three weeks the endothelial type of cell had almost disappeared while the eosinophiles and lymphocytes were the most prominent type present. The change in the cell count followed the clinical course from an acute to a chronic stage of the disease. He believes that the cytological study offers a means for prognosis. He furthermore points out that the cell picture of the tuberculous exudate is not a constant one and that a high lymphocytic count is not always present. The previous findings of others are extensively discussed in the text. The exact meaning of the increase of eosinophiles in tuberculous exudates is not well understood and is difficult of comparison in acute infections where their presence is so frequent in the late chronic stages. On the other hand, however, eosinophiles appear during the acute stages of some cases of sepsis, lues, cysticercus, influenza, and typhus. It is suggested that the eosinophiles in late tuberculous lesions appear as a local response and are associated with the myelocytes and certain forms of endothelial cells.

---

**Note to Contributors.**—All communications intended for insertion in the Original Department of this Journal are received only *with the distinct understanding that they are contributed exclusively to this* Journal.

Contributions from abroad written in a foreign language, if on examination they are found desirable for this Journal, will be translated at its expense.

A limited number of reprints in pamphlet form, if desired, will be furnished to authors, *provided the request for them be written on the manuscript.*

All communications should be addressed to—

Dr. George Morris Piersol, 1913 Spruce St., Philadelphia, Pa., U. S. A.